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MANUAL

for

FOREIGN MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

United Christian Missionary Society
425 DeBaliviere Avenue
St. Louis, Mo.

Form F5—1M—12-18-23—1

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I. Foreign Missionary Work

a. Aim

The motive, authority and program of Foreign Missions are found in the Missionary command and commission of our Lord: "All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew 28:19-20). This commission was given to the whole Body of Christ and the responsibility of the evangelization of non-Christian nations is upon all Christians.

Under this commission the aim of Foreign Missions is to make Jesus Christ known to all men and to lead them to become his followers; to invite them into churches as was done in the early days of the church, to co-operate with them, and as rapidly as possible to make these churches self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagating.

All forms of missionary work which will contribute to the carrying out of the commission are legitimate and the relation of these forms of work, and the proportion of each which shall be done, must be determined in the light of conditions and needs on the fields.

The spiritual aspects of the missionary work are entitled to the thoughts and affections of all who engage in it. Applicants for appointment as missionaries should set before their minds the authority, glory, and grace of Christ, and the honor of His name in the salvation of souls, as their great aim. They should offer

their services in the work of spreading the gospel under a sense of being divinely called to it, and they should seek their reward in our blessed Lord's approval.

b. Evangelistic Work

While all missionary work should be evangelistic, there is a type of service which is always directly evangelistic. Its purpose is as follows: To give the people the saving message of the Bible through preaching, personal work, teaching, community and social service, institutional effort, literature, and the influence of the personal Christian life and the Christian home. To lead the people who have thus been influenced to accept Christ as their Savior. To aid in organizing these converts into churches according to the New Testament plan and to train them in effective Christian work, and to seek out those who are qualified for leadership and to train them for service.

c. Educational Work

Educational work can hardly be spoken of as simply Department of Foreign Missions. Like evangelistic work, it runs through the whole enterprise. The Missionary School affords an effective means of getting the young of non-Christian parents under the sustained contact of Christian leaders and through this contact lead them to Christ. Another function of Missionary Educational work is to take the young of the Christian community and give them a thoroughly Christian education, thus training them for leadership in the church, the nation and in everyday life. An illiterate Church membership cannot win or hold leadership and cannot free itself of superstition and pagan ideals.

d. Medical Work

Much of missionary effort must be the service which the spirit of Christ renders in human

distress. This is the greatest demonstration to the people of the real character of Christianity. Besides the healing of the sick, the hospital and dispensary provides an exceptionally fine medium for direct personal work and evangelization. Non-Christian lands have little means of alleviating disease and suffering, and here Medical Missions not only applies the service side of the Gospel, but furnishes a key to open the door to hearts and communities. It has been found necessary in some lands to go further than the direct service of the missionary and to build up as far as possible an indigenous Christian Medical profession, through trained native doctors and nurses. It is very important that each doctor give himself to medical service and only in the gravest emergency should he be asked to drop it, even temporarily, to take up other work.

e. Work for the Helpless

One of the most effective services of the Foreign Mission enterprise is carried on among the most unfortunate and helpless. Work for orphans, lepers, the blind, famine sufferers and other needy ones provides a beautiful avenue for the work of the missionary.

f. Literary Work

No permanent Christian work can be carried on without Christian Literature in the tongue of the people. Christianity must mean not only a great field of usefulness here and the printing press is one of the greatest agencies for good in the work of evangelization and training. The Bible and other books are widely circulated in the native vernacular, and tracts, periodicals, Sunday school supplies and school text books are written and printed in large quantities. Literature for evangelistic, apologetic, and spiritual training purposes is necessary everywhere.

g. Industrial Work

Christianity can only be permanent as it becomes a real part of the everyday industrial life of the people. Especially, among primitive peoples, in tropical lands, is it necessary to adapt education to the daily needs and crafts of the people. Christianity must mean not only redeemed souls, but better nourishment for bodies and the blessing of fruitful labor. Such work should always be carried on with evangelization and the building of Christian character in mind.

II. The Missionary

1. General Qualifications, Preparation, etc.

a. Spiritual

There is no Christian work in the world more difficult than that of the Foreign missionary. One who is not fully converted to Christ and who does not hold deep convictions as to the fundamentals of the faith, will neither be happy nor successful in the work. One needs to be so constrained by the love of Christ that he can carry on a difficult task with joy and evidence of this should be forthcoming by experience at home before going to the field. It is better to have a few candidates with devotion burning in their souls, than many who lack in earnestness and deep spiritual qualifications.

b. Educational

The work requires the very best of educational training. Conditions have developed on most fields that make special training more necessary than formerly. Besides the fact that in most fields the missionary is obliged to meet well educated natives on their own ground and win their respect, the task itself is of such a nature that a well trained mind is necessary to successfully master its baffling problems. A missionary must be a leader and many times the task of superintending an enterprise falls

on his shoulders, where he is not surrounded by those who can counsel with him. The minimum of education should be the equivalent of a full college course with a year or two of extra special preparation. Thorough Bible training should always be included in the above or taken extra. Candidates should not only have thorough Biblical training, but also such a knowledge of Christianity as to be able to strongly present its claims to non-Christian peoples. Linguistic ability must be evident to meet the requirements of the fields. One who cannot get the native language is most seriously handicapped. As a rule married women should have the same qualifications as are required of single women.

c. College of Missions

Every candidate is expected to spend a year or two of study at the College of Missions in direct preparation for the work and in addition to college and other training. This latter training provides much essential help besides the intellectual training it affords.

d. Physical

No missionary candidate can be considered by the Society who does not have good health and a strong constitution, and a good health history. As a rule, both the climate and the nature of the work are more trying than at home, and a weak point in health or physical condition will soon be put to the test. The service of the missionary is supposed to be for life, and it is due the work, as well as the people who support it, that a missionary have a good prospect of long, vigorous service. The Society requires a thorough physical examination.

e. Other Necessary Qualifications

Love for the native people is an absolute necessity for success. This requires a nature

of deep sympathy, tolerance, and imagination. These qualifications are also necessary in order to work harmoniously with one's fellow missionaries. The qualities of good judgment, leadership, team-work and patience will need to be strongly tested out before appointment to a Foreign field. Candidates should be well matured in experience before appointment. On the other hand it is not as a rule deemed advisable to send workers out who are beyond thirty years of age. Difficult problems arise where candidates with children are considered for appointment, and such instances necessitate special consideration.

2. Special Qualifications

Those who expect to do missionary work designated as evangelistic service, should not only have special training beyond the college course, but should also have had some definite experience in pastoral or evangelistic service. Educational missionaries should have special training in educational courses and should also have some practical experience. Those who are planning to undertake medical service, will need the full accredited medical course and at least a year of hospital interneship. They should also have special training in the Bible. Such candidates should also have successful experience in Christian service. Those who go as nurses should preferably have a full college course in addition to the nurses' course and should have the training at the College of Missions, together with Bible training. One applying to go as an industrial missionary, or special worker of any sort, should have had thorough training in his speciality besides good foundational courses and training in the Bible. Since the educational phases of the work are so intimately connected with all types of missionary service, it is urged that every candidate, become somewhat acquainted with pedagogical work

and methods before going out. Children of missionaries who have grown up on the field and who are preparing for missionary service should have at least a year of practical service at home before going to the field.

3. Appointment to Fields

All candidates are required to fill out blanks for information, file an application blank, take a thorough medical examination, and give sufficient references as to training and other qualifications.

It is required that a personal interview be had with each candidate, either by the candidate secretary, or some member of the Foreign Department, before any final plans are made for either training or service. It is the purpose of the Society to have its officers keep in touch with volunteers and prospective candidates during their college courses and graduate work. No final appointments will be made to the fields until the candidate has come near the end of his preparation, although fair assurances can be made concerning possible appointment, subject to the circumstances of health and the testing of qualifications.

The College of Missions has a faculty of missionary specialists, most of whom have had long service on the mission field. One of the strong merits of the school is the ability it affords for keeping in close contact with the officers of the Society in connection with plans for appointment to the field of service. At the college, as soon as it is determined what the probable field of the candidate will be, the student begins to prepare for that specific field and has the fellowship and help of the others who are looking toward the same field. Direction and help also is possible in connection with the particular type of work for which the candidate is preparing. The College of Missions

also affords the candidate a rare opportunity to come in contact with Brotherhood leadership and work.

While the Society wishes as far as possible to satisfy a candidate's desire for a particular field, it is often necessary to advise change in this regard, in the light of needs on the fields and the worker's characteristics. A special service of appointment and ordination is held at the College of Missions each year, in connection with the commencement exercises.

Suggested Undergraduate Work Preparatory to College of Missions Work

The following undergraduate course is recommended for missionary candidates who, in addition to their college work, will take special training in the College of Missions:

	Semester Hours
1. English	8
2. History	6
3. Science)	
4. Mathematics)	8
5. Old Testament	10
6. New Testament	10
7. Religious Education	4
8. Psychology	3
9. Philosophy	3
10. Ethics or Doctrine	3
11. Sociology	4
12. Language	20
13. Public Speaking	4
14. Hygiene	4
15. Church History	4
Total	91

In regard to the above list the following may be said: The studies recommended are aimed to give the student first a broad

cultural course, and secondarily, to prepare him for the special training which is given at the College of Missions. The course outlined is an ideal course and not intended to be rigidly insisted on. It is felt, however, that ordinarily the student should as far as possible, conform to this course. The total number of semester hours required for graduation is usually slightly in excess of 120. As this course provides for about ninety hours, it gives the student ample margin for taking a few extra courses and for specializing along the line of his major.

Appended are a few special notes in regard to the courses as given above.

1. English: The student should pay particular attention to Grammar, and, if available, a course in Higher Grammar should be taken in college. The reason for this is that a foreign language cannot be properly mastered unless the student has a thorough knowledge of his mother tongue. This applies particularly to the grammatical structure of the language.

2. History: Every student should have a course in History, partly for its cultural value and partly because of the historical connections.

3. Science: Biology would probably be the most useful of the laboratory sciences.

5 and 6. Bible work: Every student should have as complete a course in Biblical subjects as possible. The amounts put down here are what should be the minimum preparation. Graduate Bible Courses are offered in the College of Missions.

7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Course 7 is practical, while courses 8 and 9 furnish a background for orientation into the study of the religion and philosophy of non-Christian peoples, and are practically prerequisites for courses given in the College of Missions. In a similar way,

number 11, Sociology, is highly essential for understanding the culture and life of the people, and is a prerequisite to some College of Missions courses.

12. Language: No missionary can be effective unless he has a thorough knowledge of the people among whom he is working. It is recommended that at least one language be a modern language. French is always useful. Spanish is the language for candidates preparing for Latin-America. Such language study not only has practical value, but also introduces a student into the method of learning a language in such a way as to speak and use it.

15. Church History: Church History is preliminary to a study of missionary expansion and growth.

Candidate Secretary

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